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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Korea

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SUBJECT Administration in North Korea since the
Communist Return

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1. When the North Korean army re-occupied North Korean territory and portions of the Republic of Korea after the withdrawal of UN troops, the country did not return to its previous system of administration. No civilian administrative bodies were set up, but instead the functions which had formerly been performed by the People's Committees were taken over by the army.
2. All orders and regulations concerning military operations are issued directly by the army. Rear Service Departments are established under military headquarters to carry out the orders and administer in place of the People's Committees.
3. The military authorities have a "contribution" system under which all grain except two months' supply is collected from the farmers. Personal effects, clothing, and transportation facilities belonging to individuals or families who have fled to the south are confiscated and removed by the military. Houses have been searched for medical supplies, and hoarders of drugs may be shot. Most medical supplies are surrendered to the authorities voluntarily, but food is hidden where possible.
4. Upon the Communist return, all citizenship certificates were checked and given a "military inspection" stamp. Any person carrying a certificate without this stamp is immediately treated as a reactionary. There are no registers of citizens against which to check identification, and the stamp is the only means of control. The lack of records has made it difficult to check suspected deserters from the army.
5. Before the Chinese entered Korea, the North Koreans were terrified of the Chinese, but when the troops actually appeared fear vanished. The Chinese troops are well-disciplined, do nothing against the Korean population, and take no part in local administration. Chinese residents of North Korea, however, are much agitated because all Chinese nationals who were in Korea during the UN northern advance, particularly the youth, are being sent to Manchuria.

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6. When the Chinese Communist troops entered Kaesong, 90 percent of its population fled to the south. The Chinese blamed the North Korean army, saying: "The objective of the people's army is the people themselves -- the army is fighting for them. How does it happen that the people have fled from the army? The North Korean army must have lost its popularity during the occupation of the area last summer." The Chinese statements stressed the fact that they were for the Korean people and their enemy is the United States.

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